

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** Complaint against Maryland Department of the Environment alleging violations of Title 6 Civil Rights Act ( Race and/or National Origin )  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2015 9:24:43 AM

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Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is (b) (6) Privacy. I am an African American male. I was born and raised in the United Kingdom of Nigerian parents and I am a naturalized U.S citizen. I came to the United States as an adult and retain my foreign accent. I reside in Maryland.

I wish to file a complaint against the Maryland Department of the Environment ( MDE ) under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, for discrimination against me in their enforcement practices, due to my race and/or national origins.

The summary of my complaint of discrimination is as follows:

- 1) MDE is the recipient of EPA financial grants and/or other types of financial assistance and therefore, EPA has the jurisdiction under Title VI to investigate complaints of discrimination by MDE based on race and/or national origin
- 2) MDE filed and maintains a baseless lawsuit against me in Baltimore City Circuit Court, Case No. 24-C-13-008332, as a form of alleged enforcement action, alleging violations of the Md. Lead Paint law ( failure to register properties and failure to obtain requisite lead paint compliance certificates ) and requesting up to \$69 million damages and injunctive relief for properties that are in compliance with Md law and lead free.
- 3) One of the properties subject of the lawsuit is not owned by me and was not owned by me when MDE visited the property and then filed the lawsuit. That property is certified lead free and MDE knows this.
- 4) The lawsuit was initiated by MDE as a form of harassment/discrimination, not initiated by a tenant complaint. There are no allegations of lead poisoning or harm to either persons or the environment in the lawsuit.
- 5) MDE filed said lawsuit without first issuing a notice of violation to me, contrary to its usual stated practice.
- 6) The said lawsuit is being continued in bad faith as a form of discrimination against me. I have tried to have the lawsuit dismissed by providing evidence of the status of the properties as certified lead free, but MDE persists in this lawsuit.
- 7) MDE is discriminating against me because it does not file lawsuits against people who are U.S born and/or not African-American, without first issuing them a notice of violation and thus giving the person an opportunity to get in compliance with Md law.
- 8) One of MDE employees, Mr. Jonathan Klanderud, at the occasion of a recent hearing at the Md Office of Administrative Hearings, threw some papers at my feet outside in the parking lot and said to me: 'we don't like foreigners'.
- 9) Recently, MDE Secretary Horacio Tablada, confirmed that MDE's practice is to issue notices of alleged violations prior to initiating any enforcement action. See Article in Baltimore Sun, dated August 21, 2015  
<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-lead-letters-20150821-story.html>
- 10) I am ready to provide additional information concerning all of the above allegations as and when you require it.

I look forward to hearing from you.

(b) (6) Privacy

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P I

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** Putting blacktop and concrete in ground  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2015 2:54:59 PM

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At Wheel estates mobile home park out back in wetlands (b) (6) Privacy(b) (6) Privacy

(b)  
(6)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** Flouron Elkton Maryland building 120  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 11:44:49 PM

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No solvent rag waste goes in regular trash. No spill containment for any chemicals 55gal drums. No ventilation for spraying equipment. Teflon waste goes to local landfill along with solvent rags. Acetone and alcohol rags. Employees sand Teflon with no or shared respirators no new filters. Off blue ball road Elkton Maryland 21921.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** Double Tree Hilton  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 6:46:23 AM

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I stayed at the Double Tree Hilton in Sacramento Ca. a few months ago. The room smelt heavily of mold. I left a review with them online telling my experience. The bathroom was the problem area. There were no fans or windows or vent in bathroom for air circulation. They did not reply to my complaint. This did not impress me and it seems they are willing to harm people for profit. Not sure how much damage was done to my lungs. So I called and spoke with manager who blamed it on the clean up crew. This had nothing to do with the clean up crew in my eyes. To me there was obviously not enough air flow in the bathroom. They refunded my money but have not informed me of further action they have taken to fix the problem. Big company with bad care for people. Please investigate. I believe it was room 1210, but they have my records with my name under for accuracy. Please let me know if you want further information from me.  
Thank you,

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Coldwell Banker Kappel Gateway Realty

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P i

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [Title VI Complaints](#)  
Subject: Please accept the following complaint  
Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 11:11:06 AM

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**Complainants:**

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Other complaints

Vs

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Office of the Commissioner  
101 South Broad Street  
PO Box 800  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0800

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Office of the Commissioner

401 E. State St.  
7th Floor, East Wing  
P.O. Box 402  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

**TCHS neighbors file discrimination complaint against DEP and DCA**

On or about August 6, 2015, a contractor hired by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) proceeded to demolish the roof and various other parts of Trenton Central High School. Remediation of Trenton Central High School began during April of 2015. However, a consultant hired by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority noted that remediation of TCHS will take approximately one year. On or about August 5, 2015, the SDA reported that demolition of TCHS will take place only in those sections of the building in which remediation is complete. However, a structural assessment reported completed by CB & I Government Solution, Inc. on September 11, 2014, noted that demolition in one area of the building will affect the structural integrity of other parts of the building. Therefore, demolishing TCHS in sections, without waiting for the completion of total remediation of Trenton Central High School, poses a threat to the health and safety of residents.

On or about August 7, 2015, the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and United States District Attorney was notified regarding wrongdoings and awarding of various contracts associated with Trenton Central High School. Concerns regarding a "conflict of interest" and other issues have been raised. For example, the SDA noted that the contractor that will perform the demolition will also perform the abatement. In addition, the contractor hired to do the Structural Assessment is the same contractor that completed the Environmental Assessment.

On or about May 8, 2015, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed for Trenton Central High School. The Environmental Assessment report was incomplete. The report failed to accurately assess the environmental situation at Trenton Central High School. As a result, contamination remains at Trenton Central High School, which has posed a threat to the health and safety of area residents and patients at nearby Saint Francis Hospital.

Trenton Central High School presently contains various holes in the roof and other openings in the building which has caused sickness to residents. The contractor hired by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority failed to properly seal TCHS in a manner to prevent residents from further exposure to contamination. The tools utilized to monitor the contamination at TCHS have been biased and defective.

On or about August 6, 2015, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection granted various approvals which permitted demolition and remediation at Trenton Central High School. Demolition of Trenton Central High School has been permitted to continue, although a feasibility study in accordance with State law was not completed, prior to the closure of Trenton Central High School. Research has consistently shown that rehabilitation is less harmful than demolition.

The Trenton Board of Education voted to select design option #3 for the new Trenton Central High School. However, the Trenton School District permitted various District employees to participate in the planning of TCHS, without the guidance of a project manager independent of the SDA. Additionally, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority has failed to hire a Chief Executive Officer with the expertise to manage school construction projects.

The lack of expertise during the planning of TCHS has contributed to the environmental problems at the construction site. The NJDEP and other government agencies failed to adhere to Executive Order #47 (1b), which mandates that the CEO have a background in school construction.

According to the United States Census, the racial breakdown of the City of Trenton is approximately 52% African American and 33% Hispanic. In addition, the neighborhood surrounding Trenton Central High School is composed of mostly African Americans and Hispanics residents.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and New Jersey Department of Community Affairs engaged in racial discrimination by jeopardizing the health and safety of residents near Trenton Central High School, in violation of the VI of the Civil Rights Act

of 1964, as amended.



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** EPA File No: 08R-15-R4  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2015 8:23:45 AM  
**Attachments:** [2015.08.10 Letter.pdf](#)

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Please see attached letter.

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August 10, 2015

**Delivered via Electronic Mail**

Ms. Velveta Golightly-Howell, Director  
Office of Civil Rights  
Mail Code 1201A - Room 2450  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
Title\_VI\_Complaints@epa.gov

Re: **Complaint Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act**  
**Jefferson County [Alabama] Department of Health**  
**EPA File No: 08R-15-R4**

Dear Ms. Golightly-Howell:

The above-referenced complaint was received by EPA OCR on March 3, 2015 and acknowledged by EPA OCR in an undated letter received in early April 2015.

As you know, 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(d)(1) provides that “[w]ithin twenty (20) calendar days of acknowledgment of the complaint, the OCR will review the complaint for acceptance, rejection, or referral to the appropriate Federal agency.” In addition, 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(d)(1)(i) provides that “[i]f the complaint is accepted, the OCR will notify the complainant . . .” No notification of acceptance (or rejection) has been received.

Please be advised that there are no pending administrative or judicial proceedings pending against the Jefferson County Department of Health or permittee concerning the issuance (renewal) of Major Source Operating Permit No. 4-07-0355-03. As such, I believe there are no impediments to OCR completing its jurisdictional review of the complaint.

Sincerely,

David A. Ludder  
Attorney for Complainants

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#)  
**Subject:** EPA File No: 08R-15-R4  
**Date:** Saturday, August 08, 2015 2:47:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [2015.08.10 Letter.pdf](#)

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Please see attached letter.

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August 10, 2015

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Office of Civil Rights  
Mail Code 1201A - Room 2450  
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Title\_VI\_Complaints@epa.gov

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